

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicant amended the claims as presented in the English translation of the Annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report for the International application PCT/EP2004/006315, enclosed herewith. Claims 3, 5, 7, 9-15, and 17 are amended to avoid multiple dependency and to comply with US rules. New dependent claims 19 and 20 correspond to the originally filed claims 13 and 14, respectively, but avoid multiple dependency. In making these amendments care has been taken to ensure that no new matter has been added and that the claims remain supported by the specification.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17 during its entire pendency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1135. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1135.

Respectfully submitted,

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